A BREIFE

MEMENTO

To the preſent

VNPARLIAMENTARY

IVNTO

Touching their preſent intentions and Proceedings to *Depoſe* and *Exeute*, *CHARLES STEWART*, their lawfull

KING

By *William Prynne* Eſquire: *a Member of the Houſe of Commons*, and PRISONER under the *Armyes Tyrany*; who it ſeemes, have *leavyed Warre* againſt the Houſes of *Parliament*, their *quondam Maſters*; whoſe *Members* they now forcibly take and detaine *Captives*, during their *lawleſſe Pleaſures*.

Proverb 24. 21, 22.

My Son, Feare thou the Lord and the King, and meddle not with thoſe who are given to Change: for their calamity ſhall RISE SVDDENLY, *and who knoweth the ruine of them both?*

Gal. 1. 10.

If I yet pleaſed men, I ſhould not be the Servant of Chriſt.

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Die Veneris 20. Aug. 1647.

An Ordinance for declaring all Votes, Orders, and Ordinances passed in one or both houses, since the force on both Houses, *July* 26. until the sixth of this present *August*, 1647. to be nul and void,

VVHereas there was a visible, horrid, insolent, and actual force upon the Houses of Parliament, on *Munday* the 26 of July *last*, where upon the Speakers, and many Members of both Houses of Parliament, were * forced to absent themselves from the service of the Parliament, and whereas those Members of the House could not returne to sit in safety, before Fryday the sixth of August. It is therefore declared by the Lords and Commons in Parliament Assembled that the Ordinance of *Munday* the said 26 *July*, for the repealing & making voyd of the Ordinance of the 23 of the said *July* for the setling of the Militia of the City of London, being gained by force and violence, And all Votes, Orders, Ordinances, passed in either or both Houses of Parliament, since the said Ordinance of the 26 of July to the said sixt of August, are nul and void, and were so at the making thereof, and are hereby declared so to be, the Parliament being under a force, and not free. Provided alwayes and be it ordained. that no person or persons shall be impeached or punished for his or their actions by, or upon, or according to the aforesaid Votes, Orders, or Ordinances, unlesse he or they shall be found guilty of contriving, acting, or abetting the aforesaid visible and actual force, or being present at, or knowing of the said force, did afterwards act upon the Votes so forced; or were guilty of entring into, or promoting the late Ingagement for bringing the King to the City, upon the termes and conditions expressed in his Majesties Letter of the 12. of May *last*.

* And yet never a Member forcibly imprisoned or secluded the House as above 200. are now by the Army.

John Brown Cler. Parliamentorum.

A breif *Memento* to the preſent Vnparliamentary *Iunto*, touching their preſent intentions and proceedings to *depoſe* and *Execute* CHARLES STEVVARD their lawfull King of ENGLAND, *&c.*

GENTLEMEN.

IT is the obſervation of King *Solomon Prov* 25.11. *That a word ſpoken in due ſeaſon, is like Apples of Gold in pictures of ſilver.* And ſeeing I (and above two hundred Members more) being forcibly ſecluded from you by the *Officers* of the *Armies* unparaleld violence upon our Perſons and the Houſe, cannot ſpeak my mind freely to you *in*, or *as* the *Houſe* of *Commons*, I held it my duty *freely* to write my *thoughts* unto you, only as *private Perſons* under the force, conſulting in a *Houſe*, without your *Fellow-Members* advice or concurrence, about the ſpeedy depoſing and executing of KING CHARLES, your *lawfull Soveraigne*, to pleaſe the *Generall*, *Officers* and *Grand Councel of the Army* (who have unjuſtly uſurped to them *the ſupream Authority both of King and Parliament*) or rather the *Ieſuits* and *Popiſh Prieſts* among or neare them, by whoſe *Councels* they and you are now wholly ſwayed, and whoſe *trayterous deſignes* you *really execute*, in moſt of your late *Votes* and *Actings*.

I have only a few words and conſiderations to impart unto you: *Dictum ſapienti ſat eſt.*

First, I ſhall minde you, that by the * *Common Law of the Realme*, the *Statute* of 25 *E.*3. and all other Acts concerning *Treaſon*, it is

* Cook. 3 Inſtitut. 1. Stamfords Pleas of the Crown. l. 1. c. 1. 2.

no leſſe then **High Treaſon**, for *any Man* by overt act, *to compaſſe or imagine the depoſition or death of the King, or of his eldeſt Son and Heire*, though it be never executed: much more if actually accompliſhed. That many have been arraigned, condemned, executed for ſuch *intended Treaſons* in former ages; as the Earle of *Arundell* and others, by *judgement in Parliament*, 21. *R.* 2. *Plac Corona. N.* 4. 6. 7. and the *Gunpouder Traytors*. 3. Jacobi. to omit others, whoſe *Examples* ſhould be others admonitions, the *Heads* and *Quarters of ſome* of them yet hanging on the Houſes where you now meet and ſit.

2dly That, in the *Oath of Allegiance* which you have all taken, immediately before your admiſſion into the Houſe as Members; *You doe truly and ſincerely acknowledge, profeſſe, teſtifie and declare in your conſciences, before God and the World, That our Soveraigne Lord King* Charles, **Is lawfull and rightfull King of this Realme**, *and of all other his Majeſties Dominions and Countries*, And *that the* Pope *neither of himſelfe, nor by any authority of the Church or See of* **Rome**, or by **any Other meanes, With any other, hath any power or authority to Depoſe the King**, *or to diſpoſe of any of his Majeſties Kingdomes or Dominions*, or **to diſcharge any of his Subiects of his Allegiance and Obedience to his Majeſty**, or to give leave **to any of them, to offer any violence to His Majeſties Perſon, State or Government**. *And that notwithſtanding any ſentence or Declaration of* **Deprivation** *made by the Pope, &c. or any abſolution of the ſaid Subjects from their obedience*, you will *beare true allegiance, to His Majeſtie, His heires and ſucceſſors, and him and them wil defend to the uttermoſt of your power.* **Againſt all attempts and conſpiracies whatſoever, which ſhall be made againſt his or their Perſons, their Crowns and dignity**, *by reaſon or colour of any ſuch ſentence or Declaration*, **or otherwiſe**: *And do thereby further ſwear, that you do from your* **harts abhor, deteſt, and abiure as impious and Hereticall**, *that* **damnable doctrine and poſition**, *that Princes which be excommunicated or deprived by the Pope*, **may be depoſed or murdered by their Subiects**, *or any other whatſoever. And that you doe belive, and in conſcience are reſolved, that neither the Pope, nor any perſon whatſoever, hath power* **to abſolve you of this Oath**, or **any part thereof**; *and that all theſe things you did plainly and ſincerely acknowledge and ſweare, according to theſe expreſſe words and their* **plain and common ſence**, *without any equivocation or mentall evaſion*

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or

or secret reservation whatsoever, And that you did make *this Recognition & acknowledgement* heartily, willingly, & truly, *upon the true faith of a Christian*. Now whether your present actings & intentions against the King, be not diametrically repugnant to this solemn *Oath* (which most of you have taken sithence these wars; & some of you since the Treaty, when sworn Sejeants at Law, &c.) let God and the world before whom you sware, and your own consciences, in which you then swore, determine your acting herein the Popes and Iesuits designes.

3dly. That your selves among other Members, have in above one hundred Remonstrances, Declarations, Petitions, Ordinances and printed papers published in the name, and by the authority of one or both Houses of Parliament, professed, both to the *King himself, Kingdome, World, and forraign States*, that *you never intended the least hurt, injury, or violence to the Kings Person, Crown, Dignity, or Posterity*: but intended to him and his Royall Posterity, more *honour happinesse Glory and Greatnesse*, then ever was yet enjoyed by any of *his Royall Predecessours*: *That you will ever make good to the uttermost with your lives and fortunes, the faith and allegiance, which in truth and sincerity you have alwayes borne to his Majesty, that you have proposed no other ends to your selves, but the performance of all duty and loyalty to his Majesties Person. That all Contributions, and loanes upon the publike faith should be imployed only to maintain the* Protestant Religion; the Kings authority, his Person, his Royall Dignity, the Lawes of the land, Peace of the Kingdome, and priviledges of Parliament, and not to be imployed against his Majesties person or authority. *That the* Armies and forces raised by the Houses were raised for* the safety *and defence of the Kings Person, and of both Houses of Parliament, &c. That his Majestes Personall safety, honour and greatnesse, are much dearer to you then your owne lives, and fortunes, which you do most heartily dedicate, and shall most willingly imploy for the maintenance and support thereof. That the Parliament will ever have a care to prevent any danger which his Majesty may justly apprehend to his person. That both Houses are resolved to expose their lives and fortunes, for the defence and maintenance of the true Religion.* The Kings person, honour and State *the power and priviledges of Parliament: That notwithstanding his Majesties proclamations against the General, and Army, as Traytors, yet to witnesse their* constant and unshaken Loyalty to his Majesty both

* A Collection. &c. 18.13 41. 43,44 49. 51 61. 64.96.181 182.310. 321. 424. 425.496. 599. 623. 696.806. 807. 879. Appendix. p. 15.

* Exact Collections. p.6.19.59. 66.6.83. 102.103. 118.123. 125.141. 142,143. 173.180. 195.219. 259. 281. 307.380. 312.360. 376.457. &c.

both houses do solemny declare; That *upon his disbanding his forces,* & return & harkning to the advise of his Great Councel, They will really endeavour to make both him & his as much beloved at Home, & *feared abroad as any Pr. that ever swayed this Septer:* which is their firm and constant resolution: *from which they will not be diverted for any private or self respects whatsoever:* That they will faithfully *endeavour* to secure his Majesties Person & Crown, from all dangers *inculcating* the apparent danger to his Royal Person *among his popish & Malignants Armies & ill Councelors, & upon that reason, perswading and inviting him to desert them, and close with his Parliament: protesting, that the Parliament hath been, is & ever will be more ready then they,* to secure *and uphold the Authority, Prerogative and Honor of the* King, and preserve the safety of his Royal Person, *which they* have oft times testified by many *humble Petitions and Declarations to Him, the World and Kingdome:* with many other such like expressions. Which whether your present Actings and Counsels do not directly oppose, contradict, and give the lye unto, to your eternall infamy and breach of publique faith, as much as in you lies, let both Houses, the world and all men judge; as they will doe in due season.

* Exact Collection. p. 298. 695. 696. 657. 658. 991.

4thly. Consider, That when the * *King* and his *party* did taxe the *Houses for insinuating, That if they should make the highest presidents of other Parliaments their pattern, there would be no cause to complain of want of modesty or duty in them:* That is, they may depose the King when they will, *and are not to be blamed for so doing: and that the army raised by the Parliament* was to murther and depose the King. Both houses by two solemne *Declarations,* did most professedly declare and protest against it, as the falsest and most malicious accusation that could be imagined: that the thoughts of it never entred nor should enter into their loyal hearts. "That as "God is witnesse of their thoughts, so shall their actions witnesse to "all the world, that to the honor of our Religion; & of those who are most zealous in it, they shal suffer far more for & from their Soveraign "then they hoped God would ever permit the malice of his wicked "Councellors, to put them to, since the happinesse of the Kingdome "doth so mainly depend upon his Majesty and the Royall Authority "of that root. That they hoped *the contrivers of these false and scandalous reports, or any that professed the name of a Christian could not have so little charity as to raise such a scandall, especially when they*

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must needs know, the Protestation *made by the Members of both houses whereby they promise in the presence of Almighty God* to defend and preserve his Majesties Person, The Promise and Protestation made by the Members of both houses upon the Nomination of the Lord of Essex to be Generall, and to live and die with him, wherein is expressed, That this Army was raised for defence of the Kings Person. *Their often, earnest and most humble addresses to His Majesty, to leave that* desperate and dangerous Army wherewith he is now encompassed, *raised* and upheld to the hazard of his own, and the Kingdomes ruine, and to come in Person to his Parliament, where he should be sure *to remain in* honour and safety, *and their humble petition directed to be presented to him by the hands of the Earl of* Essex, *before any blow given, to remove his* Royal person *from the Army: a request inconsistent with* any purpose to offer the least violence to his person which hath and ever shall be dear unto them. Now put it to your soules and consciences whether yours and the Armies present Councels and actions, doe not really justifie the Kings and his parties former suggestions, and give the lye to these *Declarations of both Houses*? who certainly when ever restored to a condition of *freedome* and liberty of meeting together againe, will crave publike reparations and justice against you, if you violate both their Honour, faith, and engagements to the King, Kingdome and forraign States, against these their Declarations and Protestations too.

Which they oft profest both of the Army under the Earl of Essex, & Sir Thom. Fairfax to. Collection of all Orders. &c. 8. 13. 41. 43. 44. 49. 51. 61. 64. 96. 99. 623. 696. 879. Appendix. pa. 15.

5thly. Remember, that the *Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament*, Octob. 22. 1642. did in the *presence of Almighty God* [*which is the strongest obligation that any Christian, and the most solemne publik faith that any state as a Parliament, can give*] *for the satisfaction of their own consciences, and discharge of that great trust that lyes upon them, make this Protestation and Declaration to all this Kingdome and Nation, and to the whole world, That no private passion or respect*: no evil intention to his Majesties person, no designe to prejudice his just honour and authority, engaged them to raise forces or take up Armes. 'That if he would return to his Parliament 'in peace, and by their counsels and advice compose the distempers 'and confusions abounding in his Kingdomes, They would receive 'him with all Honour, yeeld him all true obedience, subjection, and 'faithfully endeavour to defend his Person & Estate from all danger, *and to the uttermost of their power*, establish him in all the bles-

Exact. Collection p. 663. 664. 666. 687. 686. 907. 911.

sings

sings of a glorious and happy Reign, And that they had no intention or desire to hurt or injure his Majestie either in his Person or just power. Which they seconded by many subsequent *Declarations*. Since which, both Houses and the three Kindomes of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland* have entred into* *A solemn League and Covenant, For the Honor and happinesse of the Kings Majesty*, and his posterity [among other ends therein specified;] That they shall *sincerely, really and constantly endeavour with their estates and lives*, to preserve and defend the Kings maiesties person and authority, in the preservation and defence of the true Religion and Liberties of the Kingdoms that the world may beare witnesse with their consciences of their Loyalty; and that they have no thoughts, nor intention to diminish his maiesties just power and greatnesse. *That they will, with all faithfulnesse endeavour to discover all evill Instruments and Incendiaries* *dividing the King from his people, that they may be brought to publike tryall: and receive condigne punishment. And shall never suffer themselves directly, or indirectly, by whatsoever combination, perswasion or terrour*, to be withdrawne from this blessed union, *&c. which so much concerneth the glory of God, the good of the Kingdomes, and the honor of the King*, but *shall all the dayes of their lives zealously and constantly continue therein against all opposition*. And conclude. *This Covenant we make in the presence of Almighty God the searcher of all hearts, with a true intention to observe the same, as we shall answer at the great day, when the secrets of all hearts shal be discloſed*. This Covenant you have all taken your selves, (some of you often) and * imposed it on all three Kingdomes: And will it not stare in your faces your consciences, and engage God himselfe, and all three Kingdoms, as one man against you, if you should proceed to depose the King, destroy his person, or disinherit his posterity? yea, bring certaine ruine upon you and yours as the greatest * *Covenant-breakers*, and most perjured Creatures under Heaven. O think, and think most seriously upon it before you proceed to further perjuries.

* A Collection, &c. p. 327. 359 399. 404. 416. 420. 10. 428. 806. 887. 818. 878. 879. 889.

* Those who depose or divide his Head from his shoulders must be most guilty of this dividing.

A Collection, &c. p. 420, &c.

* 2 Tim. 3. 3, 4.

* In 24. *E* 3. *William Thrope*, cheife Iustice of the *Kings Bench*, for taking 80 l. bribes of severall persons, was by *speciall Commission, indited, convicted and condemned* to be hanged, and to forfeit all his *Lands, Tenements Goods and chattels to the King*: because thereby *Sacramentum Domini Regis quod ergo populum habuit custodiendum fregit, malicioſe, falſo & rebelliter, quantum in ipſe fuit*:

* Rot. Pet. An. 24. E. 3 m. 2. in dorſ. Rot. Pat. n. 25. E. 3. par. 1. m. 17: Cookes. 3. Inſtit. p. 141. 223.

which

which Judgement was affirmed *to be just and reasonable in full Parliament, where it was openly read by the Kings command*, as is evident by 25. E. 3. *Rot. Parl. num.* 10. If then this chief Justice for breaking his Oath to the King and his people, as a Iudge, only in taking two or three small bribes, *deserved to be hanged, and to forfeit all his Lands, Goods and Life*, by the judgement of full Parliament, then what will such Members deserve to suffer, who shall violate, not only their Oaths of *Allegiance and Supreamicy to the King and his heires, but likewise the several Protestations, solemn Leagne & Covenant, and the multiplied publique faith, engagements, declarations, Remonstrances, & promises of both houses of Parliament, made to God, the King, the whole Kingdomes & people of* England, Scotland, and Ireland, *the States of the united Provinces, and all the World; in that maliciously, falsely, and Rebelliously, as much as in them lies*, and their own private Faith, Oaths, Vowes, and Covenants involved in them, *in deposing and executing the King, disinheriting the Prince, violating the priviledges*, usurping the power of the parliament to themselves, when most of the other Members are *violently* secluded by the army, to the subversion of the freedom & liberties of all Parliaments? this being one article against King *Rich.* the 2d. in 1. H 4. *Rot. Parl.* 25 66. 70. when he was deposed. That in the Parliament held at *Salop*, 'intended to oppresse his people, he did subtilly procure and cause to 'be granted, by consent of all the States in the kingdom (which you 'have not) that the power of the Parliament should remaine with 'certain persons (* *Lords and Commons*) to determine certaine Pe- 'titions then delivered, but not dispatched, after the Parl. ended; 21. R. 2. c 'by colour whereof the said deputed persons proceeded by the Kings 16. 'pleasure and wil, to other things generally concerning the said Parl- 'ament, to the great derogation of the State and priviledges of the 'Parliament, and the great inconveniences & pernicious example of 'the whole Realme, and to gain some colour and authority to their 'doings, the King caused the Parliament Rolls to be altered and de- 'leated according to his Vote, contrary to the effect of the foresaid 'Confession; as you have presumed to nul repeale, and unvote divers Votes, Orders and Ordinances of both Houses made in pursuance *of the foresaid oathes, protestations, the solemn League & Covenant, Remonstrances, Declarations of both houses & the treaty*, when the houses were full, & not under the Armies force or violence: And if their

*L.1.N.4 c.3. proceedings & the whole Parliament of 21. *R*, were *declared* * null *and void*, and the King worthy to be deposed, for such proceedings then; let *Serjeant Thorp*, and other Lawyers now acting with you, consider and informe you what punishment you deserve for such breach of faith, priviledge of Parliament, & usurpation of a monopoly of parliamentary power to your selves now, whiles under the *Armies force*, and most Members forced thence: in which case you ought not to *sit, vote, or conclude any thing*, but only to* adjourn till the force removed & all Members may freely meet in full Parl. as is clear by that memorable Record of 6 *E.3. Par apud Ebor. n.*1.2. *Dor. claus* 6.E.3.*m.*4.6.E.3.*apud West. parl.*2.*n.*1.13. 3.*parl.*2.*n.*4.15.*E.*3.17.E.3.*n* 2.6.18.E.3.*n.*1.2.5 2°.E.3.*n.*5.11.E.3. *n.*4.22.*E* 3.*n.*1.25 35.10.36.E.3.*n.*1.29.E.3.*n.*4.36. E.3.*n.*1.37. E.3.*n.*1.42. E.3.*n.*1.50.E.3.*n.*1. 51.E.3.*n.* 3.1.*R.*2.*n.*1.3.*R* 2.*n.*1.4.*R.*2.*n*1.*R.*2.*n.*1,4.*R.*2.*n.*1.5.R 2. *parl.*1.*n.*1.*parl* 2 *n* 1.6.R.2 *parl* 1.*n.*1.*parl.*2.*n.*18.H.4.*n.*28.30.54. 9.H.4.*n.*1.13.H.4.*n.*1. and many more rolls: where the Par. when any *considerable number* of the *Members of either house were absent, was constantly adjourned, & refused to sit or do any thing*, [though not under any force] *till the houses were full, much more then when under the Armies sword*: it being against *Magna Charta*, as the * *Barons declared in Parl*, Anno Dom. 1257. in the reign of K. *H.* the third for a few Members to sit when the rest are absent.

* As the House did in the case of the five Members, Exact. collection, p. 35.

* Matthew Paris. p. 882. 885. 858. Dan. p. 172.

6thly, Consider, that though many of the Kings of *Judah* and *Israel* were extraordinary sinfull and Idelatrous bloody and tyrannicall great oppressours of their people; yea shedders of Priests; of Prophets, and other good mens innocent blood, not only in the wars but in peace: yet there is not one president in the old Testament of any one King ever juditially impeached, arraigned, deposed, or put to death by the Congregation, Shanhedrin, or Parliament of *Judah* or *Israel*. That those who slew any of them in a tumultuous or treacherous manner, were for the most part slaine themselves, either in a tumult, *or* * *else put to death by their Children who succeeded to the Crown, or people of the Land*: & that the Israelites after their revolt from *Rehoboham*: had never any one good King, or good day almost among them: but were over-run with Idolatry, prophaneness, tyranny: invaded by enemies, involved in perpetuall Wars, Civill or Forraign; and at last all destroyed and carried away Captives into *Babylon*: as the Books of Kings and Chronicles will informe you: That

* 2 Kings. 14.6.c.15. 30.c.21.10. 14.25.24.

That the rule in the Old Testament is, not to take any wicked Kings from their Thrones and behead them: but * *Take away the wicked from before the King, and his Throne shall be established in righteousnesse.* And the rule in the New Testament, *To be subject to Kings and the Higher Powers, and to submit unto them even for Conscience and the Lords sake: and to make Prayers, Supplications, and Intercessions for them, that under them we may lead a peaceable and quiet life, in all Godlinesse and honesty, for this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour*: not to depose or shed their bloud, for which there is no precept. And is not this plaine way of God the safest for you and the Army to follow, yea the only short cut to Peace and settlement? Ruminate upon it, and then be wise, both for your soules good, and the Kingdomes too:

Prov. 25 5

* Rom. 13 1. 2. &c. Tit. 3. 1. 2. 1 P. 2. 3-13 14, 17. 1. Tim. 2. 1. 2, 3,

7thly. Consider that you now meet, and sit under the armed force and violence of a *mutinous* Army, who have leavyed Warre against the houses to dissolve them, imprison'd many of your Members forcibly secluded more, and driven away almost all from the Houses, That til the removal of this horrid force, & reassembling of all your scattered Members with freedome and safety in the Houses al you Vote: *Act, Order or Ordaine*, by the Armies owne Doctrine in their Remonstrance of *August* 18 and the Declaration and Ordinance of both Houses (made at the Armies instance) *August* 20 1647. *is null and void*, even *at and from the time it was voted, acted, ordered, ordained*, and so declared by your selves even by this unrepealed Ordinance and by former Parliaments to, as 21. *R.* 2. c 12. 1. *H.* 4 c. 3. 31. *H* 6 c 1. 39 *H* 6, c 1. And however you may take upon you the name and power of the Houses of Parliament, and unvote, vote order and ordaine what you please: yet take it for an infallible Truth, that none of the * secluded and absent Members, none of the Counties, Cities and Burroughs, for which they serve; not those for whom you serve and represent: nor yet the Kingdomes of England, Scotland and Ireland (who have as great or greater shares and interest in the person of the King, as their lawfull Soveraign, and are engaged by Oaths, Covenant, and all the forecited premises to protect his person and Crown with their lives and estates against all violence & danger) with *Queen*, Children and Allies in forraigne parts of what Religion soever, will never own you (in your present condition and constitution) to be a Parliament, but rather a *Conventicle or Junto*

* See their protestation, Dec. 11. 1648.

* See A Collection &c. p. 9. 3. 2. 21. 2. 22 2. 25. 2. 53.

nor any thing you vote, order, or ordain to be vailed. And therefore what ever you vote, Order, or Ordaine concerning the Treaty, the *deposing or executing the King, the Disinheriting or Banishing the Prince, dissolving the present Parliament, setting up a new confused Representative, or new forme of State Goverment*, only to please the Officers and Army, or rather those Jesuits and popish Priests, who have overreached, & instigated them forcibly to prosecute these their treasonable designes, and accomplish this their long expected desire & work; you must do only as private men, not as a Parliament: and if so, what lesser offence then *High Treason*, against the King, Parliament and kingdom, your present actings and proceedings will prove in the conclusion, if you persevere and persist in them, I leave to a free Parliament, the learned Judges, and all Lawyers now sitting and voting among you, to consider and resolve. Which the Officers and Councell of the Army considering, would cast the Odium, and danger of all upon you, the better to exempt and acquit themselves if after reckonings should come, as probably they may, and certainely will in Gods due time, if you and they repent not, give over, and crave pardon ere it be over late.

8ly Remember, That no protestant Kingdome or State, ever yet defiled their hands, or stained the purity and honour of their Reformed Religion, with the deposition, or blood of any of their Kings or Princes, much lesse of a *protestant King or Prince*, of a temperate and sober life, as the King is, who never immediately imbrued his owne hands in any one mans blood, in any tyranical or bloody way before or since the wars; (for ought I can heare) but only in a Military, And for a Reforming protestant Parl. pretending the most of any to piety & religion, to stain their profession or honour by the deposition, or defile their hands with the blood of a protestant King, or for an army of Saints to do it, or they to please a Saint-seeming Army, and that against so many fore-mentioned oathes, protestations, declarations, Remonstrances, Solemn Leagues and covenants one after another to the contrary, would be such an unparall'd scandall to the protestant Religion & all professors of it (who have upbraided the Jesuits and papists with this perfidious & treasonable practise, of which they have been deeply guilty, & themselves innocent) both in our owne 3 kingdoms and the whole Christian world, as would give the greatest occasion, advantage, and encouragement to the Jesuites, papists, and

all

all licentious persons to joyne their hands heads, purses to suppresse and extirpate it, and all the professors of it, both at home and abroad, that ever yet they had, and make Parliaments for ever hereafter execrable and detestable, both to Kings and people.

9ly, Consider that *Scotland & Ireland* are joynt tenants at least wise tenants in Common with us in the King, as their lawfull Soveraigne and King, as well as ours; and that the *Scots* delivered and left his person to our Commissioners at *Newcastle*, upon this expresse condition: *That no violence should be offered to his Person, &c.* according to the Covenant. How then you can un-king or depose him as to them, or take away his life upon pretext of justice, without their concurrent assents, is worthy your saddest thoughts. If you doe it without asking or receiving their consents, you engage both Kingdomes to make a just Warre against you, to proclaime and to Crowne the Prince of *Wales* their King (though you should lay him aside) as being next heire apparent. And no Ordinance you can now make, will be any legal barre against him, to the Crown of *England*, where he will find ten thousand persons for one, who will joyn with *Scotland* and *Ireland* to set him upon his Fathers Throne, as king of *England*, and avenge his blood, upon all who shall be aiding or assisting to its spillings or his dethroning. And what then will become of you and your army, when thus deserted by most, opposed by all 3 kingdomes, & all the Kings, Queens, & Princes Allies, united forces, where will you, where will your St. *Cromwell*, St. *Ireton* St. *Pride*, Saint *Peters*, (that fast and loose carnall prophet and *Arch Jesuited Incendiary* in these present tumults (with other Grand Saints of the Army, [who now force you, the Generall, Army and whole kingdome, upon such dangerous councels as these, by the Jesuites principles and practises] then appeer, to save either themselves, or you, or your posterities from exemplary justice without mercy, or hopes of pardon? Consider this then seriously, if not as *Christians*, yet as *Polititians* and selfe ended men, and then repent and be wise in time.

Walsingham Hist. Aug. 9. 107. 108. 109. Polichron. l. c. 44. Sr. Speed Holinshed. Grafton in Ed. 2. & Rich. 2. Henry the 4th.

Tenthly, Remember, that you have neither Law nor direct president for what you are going about: * *Edward* the 2d. and *Richard* the 2d. were forced by *Mortimer*, and *Henry* the 4th to resign their *Crowns* in a formall manner, the one to his *Son*, the other to his *conquering successor* neither of them to the parliament, & then deposed by

* 1. H. 4. Rot. Parl. n. 1. to 60. where the whole proceedings are at large related.

by a ſubſequent ſentence in Parliament, as unfit to reign without any formall legall tryall, or anſwer: and that not in an empty Parliament under a force, as now, when moſt Members were forced away and ſecluded, but in a full Parliament, wherein the articles drawen up againſt them were never *ſo much as read*; and their depoſitions made [upon their own voluntary conceſſions only] to confirme, their precedent Reſignations. Beſides, neither of theſe Kings though very bad and Papiſts, were ever condemned to looſe their *heads* or *lives, but were to be Well and honourably Treated.* And thoſe proceedings were only by Popiſh parliaments in time of ignorance, who had no ſuch Oaths, Vowes, Covenants, Proteſtations and other forementioned conſiderations to tye their hands as you and we all have now, Yea this very Parl. hath ſolemnly & particularly protected,* *that they did never ſuffer theſe Preſidents to enter into their thoughts, and they ſhould never be their practiſe what ever they ſuffered from the King or his, and that for the honor* of our Religion, *and the moſt zealous in it,* But that which is very obſervable, *Roger Mortimer*, the principle actor in depoſing King *Edward* the 2. & Crowning his Son *Edward* the 3. King in his ſtead, [as you muſt now Crown the Prince of *Wales*, in his Fathers ſtead, if you depoſe the King, elſe you purſue not this preſident as you ſhould do] in the Parliament of [*E.* 3. In which I find no record concerning this depoſall] was in * a full Parliament within four years after, *with ſome other of his Confederates* * *impeached, condemned, and executed as a Traytor and Enemy to the King and Kingdom, by the Iudgement of the Lords, and that by King Edward the third his owne aſſent, without any legall hearing or tryall,* (juſt as he had there depoſed this King without it) for murthering King *Edward* in *Berkeley* Caſtle after his depoſall: and Sir *Thomas* de *Berkeley*, in whoſe Caſtle he was ſlain, being indicted of *Treaſon* likewiſe for the ſame murther before the Lords in Parliament, pleaded not guilty thereunto, *& was tried at the Lords Bar in a legall manner, by a Jury of* 12 *Knights there ſworn and impannelled, and by them acquitted upon full evidence and tryal?* when as Sir *Simon* de *Bereford was impeached, condemned and executed by a judgement given againſt him by the Lords alone, without any tryall, for murthering this depoſed King, and Thomas de Gourney & William Ocle, adjudged Traytors by them for the ſame offence without any evidence appearing on record.* Theſe Preſidents

* Exact. Col. p 695 699.

* 4. E 3. ror, par, n. 1. to 7.

* 4. E 3. n, 16.

4 E 3. n, 35.

dents then; will be of very hard digestion, and not parall'd to our times, or the *Kings* case: Who, having upon the late Treaty granted us, for the speedy setlement and security of our bleeding Kingdoms Churches and Religion, what ever we could in honor, justice, or reason desire, and farre greater advantages and security then any of our ancestors, or any Kingdom under heaven from the creation to this present, demanded or enjoyed from any of their Princes, (as I dare make good to you and all the world:) and that which the Commons House, after two whole dayes and one whole nights debate, thought and voted, *a sufficient ground for them to proceed with the King to the speedy setling of the Kingdoms peace*: now you, or the army after such large concessions; contrary to the votes of both houses when full and free; can in *honor, justice, reason, discretion, or conscience* proceed to depose or *decapitate* the King, as a violater of his faith, a Traitor, &c. Without making your selves more perjured; treacherous and greater *Traytors* in all kinds then he; & incurring the same judgement & execution as you shall passe & inflict upon him: I leave to your saddest consultations to advise of. I have thus freely, faithfully and plainly discharged my mind and conscience to you, without fear or flattery, for the Kings, Kingdomes, Parliaments, protestant Religion, (I am certaine, *Irelands*, almost irrecoverably lost) your own and the Armies weale and safety too, if God in mercy please to give you heads or hearts to make timely use of it, and not suffer your selves to be Jesuit-ridden any longer. Consider, you have most of you Estates, all of you Heads or lives, and soules to save, or loose both here and hereafter. If this, and all the precedent *considerations* will not prevaile with you to take you off from your present desperate Councels and proceedings for your own, the Kingdoms, Churches, Religions, Irelands, Parliaments, your owne posterities, and the Armies safety too, Ride on triumphantly still in *Ignatius Loyola* his fiery chariot like so many young *Phaitons*, till you fall and perish; It is sufficient for me, howsoever you digest this present friendly *Memento* to you, and I can truly say, *liberavi animam meam*; what ever becomes of you or me. Who doe here solemnely protest to all the world against these your proceedings, as altogether nul, void, unparliamentary, illegall, unchristian, if not perfidious and Treasonable in these respects.

I shall close up all with that Golden sentance, of God himselfe, and the wisest of men, King *Solomon*, which is twice repeated, *verbatim*, that it might be the better remembred and considered by you, and all others in such Exigences of publique affaires, as we are now fallen into. Prov. 22. 3. & 27, 12. *A prudent man foreseeth the evil and hideth himselfe, but* the simple passe on and are punished. And with that which is paralel to it Prov. 14. 14, 15, 16. *The simple believeth every word, but the prudent man looketh well to his goings. A wise man feareth and departeth from evil, but the fool rageth and is confident, and shall be filled with his own wayes*: which is thus interpreted, Prov. 1. 18. 38 32, 33: *They lye in wait for their owne blood, they lurk privily for their owne lives, whose feet run to evil, and who make hast to shed others blood. For, the turning away of the simple shall slay them,* and the prosperity of fooles shall destroy them, *But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall* dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evill.

From the *Kings head in the Strand. Jan.* 1. 1648.

Your affectionate freind and servant, as farre as you appeare to be Gods, your Soveraigns, the Kingdomes, the Parliaments, Religions, theirs who have intrusted you, or your owne true freinds.

WILLIAM PRYNNE.

Prov. 28. 23.

He that rebuketh a man, afterward shall finde more favour, then he that flattereth him with his lips.

A POSTCRIPT.

I Am confident that if the Members now meeting at *Westminster* will but perswade the *Generall*, and his *Protestant Officers* immediately to tender *the Oath of Supremacy* and *Allegiance*, *the solemn League and Covenant*, and the *New Oath of Abjuration*, *for the better discovery and speedyer conviction of Iesuits Popish Priests and Papists* consented to by the *King* in the late *Treaty*, to all the *Officers Agitators*, and *Souldiers* in the *Army*, they will presently discover an whole *Conclave* of *Iesuits*, *popish Priests*, *and Iesuited Papists* amongst them, who have instigated them, to *disobey* and *force* both *Houses*, *imprison their Members*, *to impeach*, *try*, *execute the King*, *dissolve the present Parliament*, *subvert the present Government*, and constitution of *Parliaments*, *betray Ireland to the Rebels*, and bring new *present confusion*; the practises, designes, and studies, of none but *Iesuits*, and *Papists*; which all true *Protestants* cannot but abhor.

FINIS.